

Cyndi Giordano-Donati HB 5558

143 State Route 39

New Fairfield, CT 06812

To Whom It May Concern,

I am a Board Certified Behavior Analyst practicing in CT and am writing in support of HB 5558. As a provider, I have worked with children diagnosed with autism who present with severe maladaptive behavior. One in particular, was engaging in frequent self-injury and was causing serious harm to themselves as well as engaging in severe aggression toward other people. This student needed additional supports than what we were able to provide in a school setting. I attempted to research other alternatives and to my dismay, there were very few options out there. This bill would allow children like this to access appropriate services provided by a professional with clinical expertise in behavior analysis as well as provide support services to their families. It is imperative that we as a state closely examine our autism services and come together to collaborate on how we can provide the best services that will result in the best outcomes for people on the autism spectrum. In addition, expanding the Medicaid Waiver for all people with autism is imperative as this will allow anyone with a diagnosed access to the services and supports they need to help them become well-functioning members of our state.

Thank you,

Cyndi Giordano-Donati M.A., BCBA
Behavior Analyst
Aces: Consultation Services
26 Old Post Road
Northford, CT 06472
(203) 484-9501